2. The following steps are being taken in the Supreme Court to expedite disposal of :ases:—

(i) Matters involving common question of law are grouped together and listed te groups so that they can all be disposed of together.

(ii) ln most of the matters, printing of the appeal record is dispensed with, which saves a lot of time and expense of the litigants. In criminal appeals, counsel for the appellant is required to file cyclostyled record to save time, which would otherwise be taken in getting the record printed. so that t'ne matter could he heard early.

(hi) To save the Court's time. Hon'ble the Chief Justice is talcing mentioning metters, which takes about one hour on each day. after the court hours.

dv) Supicme Court Rules have been amended empowering Hon'ble Judge in Chambers and the Registrar to dispose of certain types of matters wVnch were previously being listed in the court. This has been done to save the Court's time.

(v) Specialised benches are constituted bv' Hon'ble the Chief Justice and particuhr types of matters are assigned to such specialised benches fo,- quick disposal.

(vi) Computer technology is soon going t* be introduced in the Supreme Couit. which is expected to help, reduce the backlog of cases considerably.

ivii) Recently Hon'ble t'ne Chief Justice has directed that the counsel in each matte$_{r}$ should file written arguments, if the arguments are to take more than five hours on each side. Tne ora] arguments on each side are now restricted to five hours unless the Court feels that more time is to be given to th$_{e}$ counsel in which case a maximum of ten hours are given for oral arguments to counsel on each side. The length of oral arguments bv counsel of both the sides has thus been curtailed with a view to securing cpskk disposal of matters.

(viii) A Court Administrator-cum-Registrap General, who is a i&aior judicial officer has been appoiried very recently so that in conjunction with the present two Registrar;, there can be a re-organisation of the v.ork-inj; of ihe Registry and improving its techniques and efficiency.

Approval of sardar Sarovar and Narmada Canal Irrigation Projects

467. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to slate:

Un whether Sarda, Sarover Project and Narmada Canal Irrigation Project are finally approved by all the concerned departments of ihe Government ol lndia;

(b) whelher it is a faci that on aim-pletion Narmada Project would -ive twenty five per cent leturn every year on total investment: and

le) w heftier it is also fact that the Gujarat Government have taken required precautions for the safeguards *of* the environment and the rehabililation of the oustees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRTSHNA SAHH: fa) Yes, Sir.

(b) The benefit cost ratio of the pro ject was worked out to be about *2*

(c) The State Govei nment have prepared an action plan for safeguarding the en vironment and rehabilitation of the oustees.

Per Hectare cost of Major Dam;

468. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

fa) the per hectare cost of major dams completed and sanctioned during the last three years;

(b)i the per hectare return on investment made and projected on above projects; , and

te) | the All india percentage of irrigation and inigation of Gujarat State at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES iSHRiLMATl KRISHNA SAHI): (a) nnd ^b) Information on completed projects a;c assessed only at the end o£ the PUra pgfjof. As such infoimation on pe, hectare tost of major das completed shall he Icfiown only at the end of the plan peifel-. The Sarar Sarovar in Gujarat *fa* the only j major multi-purpose project sanctioned during last three years of Which the fast "per hectare is estimated at Rs. 25984 .Uld likely return is estimated to be Rs. 6449 per hectare.

t.e) As, pe] latest available Land Use Statistic. (1984-35) (Provisional) issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, the percentage of Gross Irrigation Area to Culturable Area i» 2l per cent i_n Gujarat as against all India percentage of 29.

Vacancies of Judges in Gujarat High Court

469. Si IRI RAMSINGH RATHWA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE ^e nleased to state:

(a) the vacancies of Judges in the Gajarat High Court;

by uhen these are likeiy to he

(o) whether there iiS. anv timehound pcgramr.i.' for filling up t'ne vacancies of Judges in various Hi?h Courts of the countiy and the Supreme Court; if so, what are he details thereof; and

(d) whether any qualified S.C./S.T. as w-elf! as women candidates are being con-sidetej the posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTR V OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) As Ion 1-11-1988, there were 3 vacancies of permanent Judges and 3 vacancies of Additional Judges in the Gujarat High Court against the sanctioned strength of 18 permanent Judges and 3 Additional Judges.

(b) While Government make all possible efforts to ensure that vacancies of Judges are fllled expeditiously, it is not possible to indicate any time by which these vacancies will be filled up.

(c) The Government leiteatej the in-structions prescribing the time schedule whereby a proposal should be initiated by the Chief Justice six months in advance of the anticipated occurrence of a vacancy in a High Court and referred to the concerned State Government; the State Government should finalise their, recommendation and send it to the Central Government within one month. The Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers and Governors of States were *inter alia r*que.sted to adhere to the above time schedule so that the vacancies are filled in expeditiously. Steps have been taken to fill the vacancies in Supreme Court and High Courts.

(d) Proposals for the appointment of some S.C./ S.T. and women candidates, as Judges of High Courts have been received.

Transfer of Technology from Japan

470. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOW-DHURY: Will the PRLME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Japan Radio Co. Ltd.. a leading manufacturer of radio equipment has offered to transfer technologv to the Punjab Wireless Systems Ltd. a State Government undertaking for production of TDMA and digital radio relay equipment which can be used for Rui al communication thus linking the rural population of India with reliable communication network;

(b) whether the offer has since been accepted by Government; and

fc) if so, what are the terms of the-offer?